

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

associating areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with letters wherein at least some of the associated areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter;

detecting a location of a user's touch on said touch interface; and

for each area of said touch interface which includes said location, identifying the letter associated therewith;

wherein for at least one particular letter, said associating comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

if two or more letters are identified, using predictive text software to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication that said location is closer to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication of how much closer said location is to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces to receive a touch by a user;

means for displaying one or more rows of letters;

means for associating areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters wherein at least some of the areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter; and

a microprocessor configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said one or more touch interfaces that include a location of said touch;

wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 7 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 8 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 7, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 9 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 10 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 11 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 12 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claims 13-14: (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claims 16-21: (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces configured to display one or more rows of letters and receive a touch by a user; and

a microprocessor configured to associate areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters wherein at least some of the associated areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter, and said microprocessor is further configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said one or more touch interfaces that include a location of said touch;

wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 23, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claims 29-30: (Cancelled).

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claims 32-33: (Cancelled).

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution by a processor of a mobile device for causing the mobile device to implement the a method of claim 1 comprising:

associating areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with letters wherein at least some of the associated areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter;

detecting a location of a user's touch on said touch interface; and
for each area of said touch interface which includes said location, identifying the letter associated therewith;

wherein for at least one particular letter, said associating comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 35 (New): The medium of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

if two or more letters are identified, using predictive text software to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 36 (New): The medium of claim 35, wherein the method further comprises:

providing said predictive text software with an indication that said location is closer to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 37 (New): The medium of claim 35, wherein the method further comprises:

providing said predictive text software with an indication of how much closer said location is to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.